UBC Master of Data Science

Applications for September 2027 will open October 2026.
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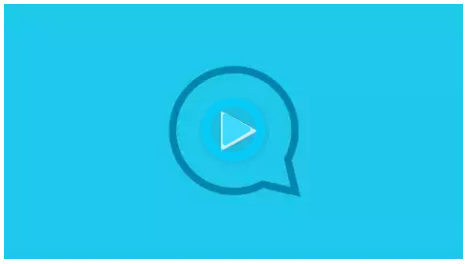
MDS Computational Linguistics

UBC's Master of Data Science in Computational Linguistics is the credential to set you apart. Offered at the Vancouver campus, this unique degree is tailored to those with a passion for language and data. Over 10 months, the program combines foundational data science courses with advanced computational linguistics courses, like natural language processing (NLP), equipping graduates with the skills to turn language-related data into knowledge and to build AI that can interpret human language.

For information on the MDS Computational Linguistics program, please go here (https://ubc-mdscl.github.io/program/aboutme/).

Domestic applications to MDS Computational Linguistics received after June 1, 2026 may be reviewed on a case by case basis but requires direct communication with the program. Interested applicants may contact ling.mds@ubc.ca (mailto:ling.mds@ubc.ca) for further information or questions.

Are you passionate about language?



Are you passionate about language and curious about data? UBC's Master of Data Science in Computational Linguistics specialization was designed for you. An accelerated, 10-month, full-time program gets you into a career faster.

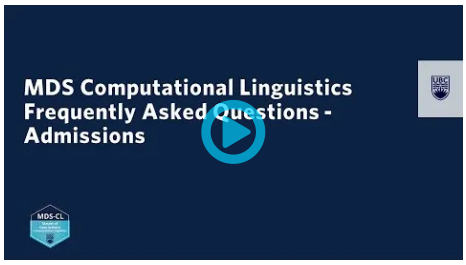
Program Benefits

Highlights Across All MDS Programs:

- 10-month, full-time, accelerated program offers a short-term commitment for long-term gain
- Condensed one-credit courses allow for in-depth focus on a limited set of topics at one time
- Capstone project gives students an opportunity to apply their skills
- Real-world data sets are integrated in all courses to provide practical experience across a range of domains

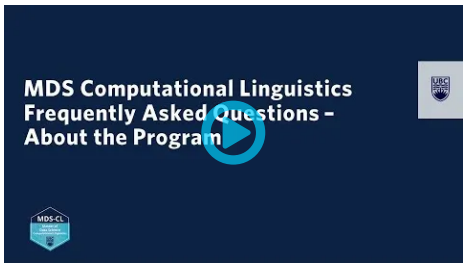
Highlights Specific To Computational Linguistics:

- Courses are taught by a combination of arts (linguistics), computer science, and statistics faculty members giving students access to key experts within each field of study
- Students learn fundamental data science skills, techniques, and tools with the core Master of Data Science cohort, then branch off into more specialized courses, such as natural language processing (NLP), experiencing the benefits of a large program and small program in one
- Students learn how to solve problems involving language data (i.e., text)
- Students learn how to use and build AI models including Large Language Models (LLMs), chatbots, Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) systems, and agentic workflows
- UBC's Vancouver campus offers students the unrivaled experience of a top 40 university, surrounded by remarkable natural beauty, at the edge of a cosmopolitan city
- Strong connections with industry partners in public and private sectors, start-ups, and leading tech companies offer a wide range of networking/career opportunities



MDS Computational Linguistics Frequently Asked Questions - Admissions

In this video, Garrett Nicolai, Director and Assistant Professor of Teaching, for the UBC Master of Data Science (MDS) Computational Linguistics program, answers the most frequently asked question about the admissions process for the MDS Computational Linguistics program.



MDS Computational Linguistics Frequently Asked Questions - Program

In this video, Garrett Nicolai, Director and Assistant Professor of Teaching, for the UBC Master of Data Science (MDS) Computational Linguistics program, answers the most frequently asked question about the MDS Computational Linguistics program.

Curriculum*

The program structure includes 24 one-credit courses offered in four-week segments. Courses are lab-oriented and delivered in-person.

At the end of the six segments, an eight-week, six-credit capstone project is also included, allowing students to apply their newly acquired knowledge, while working alongside other students with real-life data sets. Please note that instructors are subject to change.

** subject to change at the discretion of the MDS Computational Linguistics program*

Fall: September - December

Block 1 (4 weeks, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

Programming for Data Science | DSCI 511

+ **Computing Platforms for Data Science | DSCI 521**

+ **Programming for Data Manipulation | DSCI 523**

+ **Descriptive Statistics and Probability for Data Science | DSCI 551**

Block 2 (4 weeks, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

+ **Algorithms & Data Structures | DSCI 512**

+ **Data Visualization I | DSCI 531**

+ **Statistical Inference and Computation I | DSCI 552**

+ **Supervised Learning I | DSCI 571**

Block 3 (4 weeks, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

+ **Corpus Linguistics | COLX 521**

+ **Databases & Data Retrieval | DSCI 513**

+ **Regression I | DSCI 561**

+ **Feature and Model Selection | DSCI 573**

Winter: January - April

Block 4 (4 weeks, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

+ **Parsing for Computational Linguistics | COLX 535**

+ **Computational Semantics | COLX 561**

+ **Unsupervised Learning | DSCI 563**

+ **Supervised Learning II | DSCI 572**

Block 5 (4 weeks + 1 week break, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

+ Advanced Corpus Linguistics | COLX 523

+ Computational Morphology | COLX 525

+ Machine Translation | COLX 531

+ Sentiment Analysis | COLX 565

Block 6 (4 weeks, 4 credits)

+ Expand All

+ Advanced Computational Semantics | COLX 563

+ Natural Language Processing for Low-Resource Languages | COLX 581

+ Trends in Computational Linguistics | COLX 585

+ Privacy, Ethics & Security | DSCI 541

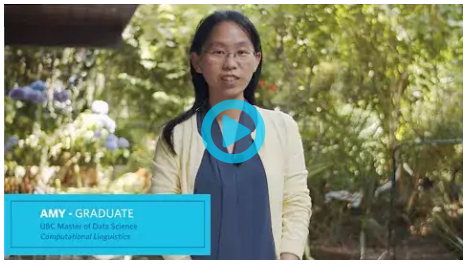
Spring: May - June

Capstone Project (8-10 Weeks, 6 credits)

+ Expand All

+ Capstone Project | COLX 595

Meet Amy



Even though Amy found the MDS Computational Linguistics program an intensive and accelerated one, it actually better fit her needs. Amy felt the most important thing they learned is to solve problems and once you are able to see a clear picture of the data, you are able to feel a sense of achievement.

Review Admission Requirements (/admissions)

Contact Us With Questions (/contact-us)

Why study at UBC Vancouver?

Explore Campus (/why-ubc/our-campuses#vancouver-campus)

Get the latest news and updates on UBC's Master of Data Science programs.

Subscribe (https://masterdatascience.ubc.ca/contact-us/sign-updates)

"MDS Computational Linguistics stood out the moment I found it. I'd considered master's programs in computer science before, but nothing quite matched the blend of language and applied data science I wanted. I was looking for a program that would challenge me and get me hands-on experience with language data, without having to commit years to something I'd never really tried in practice."
Nicole Lopez (https://masterdatascience.ubc.ca/why-data-science/student-success-stories/nicole-lopez) , MDS Computational Linguistics (https://masterdatascience.ubc.ca/programs/computational-linguistics) , Class of 2025

UBC Master of Data Science

Contact Us (/contact-us)

We acknowledge that UBC's campuses and learning sites are situated within the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh and in the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation and their peoples.

Find us on

(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSJ_h9eR5xIu4fgL8ko-TEA)

(https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ubc-master-of-data-science-program/)

(https://www.instagram.com/ubcmds/)